

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05582 170726Z
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 /018 W
-----170945Z 034704 /17
R 170620Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1166
INFO USDOC WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, ENRG, NI
SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT FOLLOWUP: PETROCHEMICALS

REF: LAGOS 5287

1. FOSTER-WHEELER REP INFORMED PETROLOFF THAT OFFICIALS FROM HIS FIRM, BECHTEL, AND ONE OTHER COMPANY WHICH HE NINETY PERCENT CERTAIN IS RALPH M. PARSONS, WILL BE IN LAGOS NEXT WEEK FOR DISCUSSION WITH MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES (NOI) ON PROJECT MANAGER CONTRACT FOR PETROCHEMICAL COMPLEX. THESE WILL BE INTIAL TALKS DESIGNED TO DEFINE TERMS, HARMONIZE THREE FIRMS' BIDS, AND REVIEW REPORT FROM CONSULTANT CHEN SYSTEMS.

2. AT DINNER GIVEN BY AMBASSADOR FOR UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE COOPER, DR. P. C. EZEIFE OF CENTRAL PLANNING OFFICE, MINISTRY ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMENT (MED), TOLD PETROLOFF THAT LONG BATTLE BETWEEN MOI AND NIGERIAN NATIONAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION (NNPC) FOR JURISDICTION OVER PETROCHEMICALS HAS BEEN RESOLVED BY INTERESTING COMPROMISE. PETROCHEMICALS WILL STAY IN MOI, BUT DECISIONS WILL BE MADE BY COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF REPS OF BOTH NNPC AND MOI, WITH OFFICIAL FROM MED SITTING BETWEEN THEM TO REFEREE DISPUTES AND BREAK TIE VOTES.

3. COMMENT: MED HAS FOUND ITS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTIONS
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THROWN OFF BY DECLINING OIL PRODUCTION AND DELAYS IN PETROLEUM SECTOR PROJECTS. PETROCHEMICAL COMPROMISE APPEARS TO REPRESENT MED INITIATIVE TAKE MORE AGGRESSIVE ROLE IN DECISIONS THAT FUNDAMENTALLY AFFECT ECONOMIC PLANNING. THIS MAY BE WELCOME DEVELOPMENT IF EZEIFE ANY EXAMPLE OF KIND OF THINKING MED WILL BRING TO BEAR ON PROBLEMS, FOR HE DEMONSTRATED ALERT, INTELLIGENT AWARENESS OF BUSINESS INVESTMENT NEEDS AND SEEMED ACUTELY

AWARE OF COSTS OF BUREACRATIC DELAYS ON PART OF FMG IN PAST.
HE AGREED WITH TABLE COMPANION ERNST HOTZ, MANAGING DIRECTOR
OF SHELL-BP, THAT GREATER FLOW OF INFORMATION WOULD BE DESIREABLE
BETWEEN COMPANIES LIKE SHELL-BP, WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO PRODUCE
GAS TO FEED DIVERSE PROJECTS, AND FMG MINISTRIES AND AUTHORITIES
LIKE NNPC, MOI AND NEPA WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF THESE PROJECTS.
MED COULD EXERT RATIONALIZING INFLUENCE ON FMG DECISION MAKING
IF IT PURSUES THIS LINE. END COMMENT.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE IF USDOC LCOULD OBTAIN CONFIRMATION
FROM RALPH M. PARSONS COMPANY WHETHER FIRM IS IN FACT ONE OF
FINALISTS IN BIDDING FOR PETROCHEMICAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT
CONTRACT.
EASON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, CHEMICALS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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TAGS: BENC, ENRG, NI
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